



Frequently-Asked Questions

What is the purpose of Earn & Learn?

Earn & Learn promotes the future vitality of Milwaukee's regional economy by preparing young people to become life-long learners, productive workers and self-sufficient citizens. **Earn & Learn** helps young people make a successful transition to adulthood by providing opportunities to develop work-readiness skills while they earn wages working in government, community- and faith-based organizations and private sector businesses.

Who operates Earn & Learn?

The Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB) operates Earn & Learn in partnership with Mayor Tom Barrett and area business leaders.

How long are student-workers employed?

Generally, student-workers are employed for eight weeks from mid-June through the end of August. Student-workers typically work 20-40 hours per week. Work schedules may vary in order to meet the needs of employers.

Can we retain our student-worker beyond summer?

Absolutely. We encourage employers to consider extending student-workers' employment after-school and on weekends up to the limits of Wisconsin's child labor laws.

Are Earn & Learn student-workers paid?

Yes. Student-workers should be paid the same rate as regular employees who do comparable work at your company. Students must be paid at least minimum wage.

Do I select the student-worker for my company?

Yes. All students are screened by MAWIB staff to ensure a match between your requirements and the student's skills, aptitudes and interests. You will have an opportunity to meet, interview and evaluate several qualified students. You will select the candidate who best-meets your needs.

How do I hire a student-worker?

Start by completing an Earn & Learn job order and returning it.

What will happen next?

MAWIB staff will arrange a visit to your company to become familiar with your operation and your requirements. This information will be used to screen and refer qualified student-workers to your company for consideration.

Who do I contact to place a job order or get more information?

Contact Kenneth Gales, the Department of City Development's Employer Outreach Coordinator at 414-286-5814 or kenneth.gales@milwaukee.gov. Or, log-on to the Earn & Learn Private Sector Job Connection website, <http://city.milwaukee.gov/PrivateSectorJobConnection.htm>

What if I can't hire a student-worker?

If your company cannot hire a student-worker, for whatever reason, you can still participate in Earn & Learn. You may want to consider a cash donation to fund a work experience slot(s) at a community-based organization. Or, you may wish to host a job shadowing visit or plant tour; mentor a student or attend a school career day. Earn & Learn staff is happy to discuss your participation options.